

Amendments to the Claims

Please replace the original claim set with the following replacement claim set.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a notification that an event has occurred, ~~said~~ the method comprising:

receiving a request to provide a notification in response to the occurrence of ~~said~~ the event to a client computer, ~~said~~ the request comprising a description of ~~said~~ the event and a user identifier;

determining whether ~~said~~ the event has occurred; and

in response to determining that ~~said~~ the event has occurred, identifying a network address for ~~said~~ the client computer based on ~~said~~ the user identifier, and transmitting a request to the client computer at ~~said~~ the network address to provide the notification ~~display a visual indication~~ that ~~said~~ the event has occurred.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the notificaiton ~~visual indication~~ comprises a user interface window including a description of ~~said~~ the event.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 2, wherein ~~said~~ the user interface window is displayed over one or more currently active windows.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 3, wherein ~~said~~ the user interface window further comprises one or more hyperlinks referencing a network location having additional information regarding ~~said~~ the event.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 4, wherein ~~said~~ the request to provide a notification further comprises data for customizing ~~said~~ the notification ~~visual~~

~~indication~~, wherein transmitting a request to ~~said~~ the client computer to provide the notification ~~display a visual indication~~ that ~~said~~ the event has occurred further comprises transmitting ~~said~~ the data for customizing ~~said~~ the notification ~~visual indication~~, and wherein ~~said~~ the user interface window further comprises ~~said~~ the data for customizing ~~said~~ the notification ~~visual indication~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein identifying a network address for ~~said~~ the client computer based on ~~said~~ the user identifier comprises querying a network service provider or other network database for ~~said~~ the network address of ~~said~~ the client computer.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the request to provide the notification ~~display a visual indication~~ that ~~said~~ the event has occurred is transmitted to ~~said~~ the client computer over a high-speed always-on network connection.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the request to provide a notification in response to the occurrence of ~~said~~ the event is received at a business web server.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a notification that an event has occurred, ~~said~~ the method comprising:

transmitting a request to provide a notification in response to the occurrence of ~~said~~ the event to a server computer, ~~said~~ the request comprising a description of ~~said~~ the event and a user identifier;

receiving from ~~said~~ the server computer a request to provide the notification ~~display a visual indication~~ that ~~said~~ the event has occurred, ~~said~~ the notification ~~visual indication~~ comprising a user interface window including a description of ~~said~~ the event; and

providing the notification ~~displaying said visual indication~~.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 9, wherein ~~said~~ the user interface window is displayed over one or more currently active windows.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein ~~said~~ the user interface window further comprises one or more hyperlinks referencing a network location having additional information regarding ~~said~~ the event.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 11, wherein ~~said~~ the request to provide a notification further comprises data for customizing ~~said the notification visual indication~~, wherein ~~said the request to provide the notification display a visual indication~~ that ~~said the event has occurred~~ further comprises ~~said the data for customizing said the notification visual indication~~, and wherein ~~said the~~ user interface window further comprises ~~said the data for customizing said the notification visual indication~~.

13. (Original) A computer-readable medium comprising computer-readable instructions which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform the method of Claim 1.

14. (Original) A computer-readable medium comprising computer-readable instructions which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform the method of Claim 9.

15. (Original) A computer-controlled apparatus capable of performing the method of Claim 1.

16. (Original) A computer-controlled apparatus capable of performing the method of Claim 9.

17. (Currently Amended) A system for providing a notification that an event has occurred, ~~said~~ the system comprising:

a client computer comprising an output device ~~a display~~, a memory, a central processing unit, and a storage device containing computer-readable instructions for

execution on ~~said~~ the central processing unit, ~~said~~ the computer-readable instructions operative to cause the client computer to transmit a request to provide a notification in response to the occurrence of ~~said~~ the event to a server computer, ~~said~~ the request comprising a description of ~~said~~ the event and a user identifier, to receive from ~~said~~ the server computer a request to provide a notification ~~display a visual indication~~ that ~~said~~ the event has occurred ~~via a high-speed always-on network connection~~, ~~said~~ the notification ~~visual indication~~ comprising a user interface window including a description of ~~said~~ the event, and to provide the notification ~~display said visual indication on said display~~; and

a server computer comprising a memory, a central processing unit, and a storage device containing computer-readable instructions for execution on ~~said~~ the central processing unit of ~~said~~ the server computer, ~~said~~ the computer-readable instructions operative to cause the server computer to receive ~~said~~ the request to provide a notification from ~~said~~ the client computer, to determine whether ~~said~~ the event has occurred, to identify a network address for ~~said~~ the client computer based on ~~said~~ the user identifier in response to determining that ~~said~~ the event has occurred, and to transmit ~~said~~ the request to ~~said~~ the client computer to provide a notification ~~display a visual indication~~ that ~~said~~ the event has occurred at ~~said~~ the network address.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 17, further comprising a web server computer, and wherein ~~said~~ the notification ~~visual indication~~ that ~~said~~ the event has occurred further comprises a hyperlink, and wherein ~~said~~ the client computer is further operative to receive a selection of ~~said~~ the hyperlink and, based on ~~said~~ the selection, to retrieve and display additional information regarding ~~said~~ the event from ~~said~~ the web server computer.

19. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 17, further comprising a billing server computer, and wherein ~~said~~ the notification ~~visual indication~~ that ~~said~~ the event has occurred further comprises a hyperlink, and wherein ~~said~~ the client computer is further operative to receive a selection of ~~said~~ the hyperlink and, based on ~~said~~ the selection, to place an order with ~~said~~ the billing server computer.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 17, further comprising a calendaring server computer, and wherein ~~said the notification visual indication~~ that ~~said the~~ event has occurred further comprises a hyperlink, and wherein ~~said the~~ client computer is further operative to receive a selection of ~~said the~~ hyperlink and, based on ~~said the~~ selection, to create an appointment with ~~said the~~ calendaring server computer.

21. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 17, wherein ~~said the notification visual indication~~ that ~~said the~~ event has occurred further comprises a hyperlink, and wherein ~~said the~~ client computer is further operative to receive a selection of ~~said the~~ hyperlink and, based on ~~said the~~ selection, to place a telephone call.

22. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 17, wherein ~~said the notification visual indication~~ that ~~said the~~ event has occurred further comprises a hyperlink, and wherein ~~said~~ client computer is further operative to receive a selection of ~~said the~~ hyperlink and, based on ~~said the~~ selection, send a data message.

23. (New) The system of Claim 17, wherein the notification request received from the server computer is received via a high speed always on network connection.

24. (New) The system of Claim 17, wherein the output device comprises a display.